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Our Work...



What it Is

What it Costs

What it Wants

A
Synopsis
of the
Annual
Report,
June,
1899.



No. 17.



....1898=9....



The Board of
Foreign Missions...
of the
Reformed Church
in America.



A
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Annual
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OUR FOREIGN MISSIONS

1898-9.

THE WORK AS IT IS:

Amoy Mission, China, Founded	.	1842.
Arcot Mission, India,	"	1853.
North Japan Mission,	"	1859.
South Japan Mission,	"	1859.
Arabian Mission,	"	1889.

THE AMOY MISSION, CHINA, 1842.

Missionaries.—Revs. P. W. Pitcher. and Hobart E. Studley.

Medical Missionary.—Rev. J. A. Otte, M.D.

Assistant Missionaries.—Mrs. Talmage, Miss M. E. Talmage, Miss K. M. Talmage, Mrs. Pitcher, Miss Cappon, Miss Zwemer, Miss Morrison, Miss L. N. Duryee, and Miss Calkoen.

P. O. Address for all, Amoy, China.

In America.—Rev. and Mrs. Daniel Rapalje, Rev. and Mrs. L. W. Kip.

Stations, 4; out-stations, 41; churches, 12; communicants, 1315; contributions in 1898, \$6,165.

Native Pastors, 12; unordained helpers, 30.

Two Boys' Schools, on Kolongsu, middle and primary, have 112 scholars.

Three Girls' schools, have 114 scholars.

The Theological School was suspended during the year.

Parochial Schools, 19; scholars, 303.

The number of patients treated in two hospitals and one dispensary at Amoy was 13,847.

During the year Hope Hospital (on the Island of Kolongsu), was completed and dedicated with appropriate services.

The Woman's Hospital erected with funds contributed by friends in the Netherlands, was also completed and both are now filled with patients.

The Neerbosch Hospital at Sio-Khe was still without a resident physician.

The weakness of the missionary force is apparent from the small number of missionaries on the field. The number has not been so reduced since 1882.

New missionaries, however, have been appointed as follows: Dr. C. Otto Stumpf and Miss Eleanor Barwood to the Sio-Khe station and hospital, Miss Angie M. Myers, M.D. for medical work in connection with the Mission and Miss Louise Brink.

These have all been secured and appointed through contributions or pledges of money in addition to the regular appropriations.

The work of the churches was scarcely less prosperous than during the previous year. The total number added to the churches on confession was 128. The net increase in communicants, however, was but 11, owing chiefly to the large number of deaths from plague and fever, 78 having died during the year. It is surprising that with such losses, or so little gain, the contributions should show an increase of nearly 28%.

It is manifestly impossible that this wide field, with its more than two millions of inhabitants, should be properly cared for and supplied with the preaching of the Gospel, or its churches and village communities visited and looked after, by so small a force. Double the number would not really meet the requirements of such a field.

THE ARCOT MISSION, INDIA, 1853.

Missionaries.—Revs. Jared W. Scudder, D.D., *Palmaner*; Jacob Chamberlain, D.D., *Madanapalle*; John Scudder, D.D., *Vellore*; John H. Wyckoff, *Tindivanam*; Louis R. Scudder, M.D., *Ranipettai*; Ezekiel C. Scudder, *Arni*; Lewis B Chamberlain, *Madanapalle*; James A. Beattie, *Chittoor*; Henry Huizinga, *Ranipettai*; Henry J. Scudder, *Vellore*; and Mr. William H. Farrar, *Arni*.

Assistant Missionaries.—Mrs. J. W. Scud-

der, Mrs. J. Chamberlain, Mrs. John Scudder, Mrs. J. H. Wyckoff, Mrs. L. R. Scudder, Mrs. E. C. Scudder, Mrs. L. B. Chamberlain, Mrs. J. A. Beattie, Mrs. H. Huizinga, Mrs. H. J. Scudder, Mrs. W. H. Farrar: Miss J. C. Scudder, *Palmaner*; Miss M. K. Scudder, *Ranipettai*; Miss Lizzie von Bergen, *Madanapelle*; and Miss Louisa H. Hart, M.D., *Ranipettai*.

In America.—Rev. and Mrs. William I. Chamberlain.

General P. O. Address.—Madras Presidency, India. Particular stations as given above.

Native Pastors, 12; other native helpers—male, 208; female, 115. Total, 335.

Stations, 7; out-stations, 150; churches, 24; communicants, 2,304; contributions, \$2,310.

Village schools, 156; scholars, 4,828.

Sunday schools, 156; scholars, 4,621.

Girls' Board Schools, 3; at Chittoor, Ranipettai and Madanapalle; scholars, 193.

Boys' Boarding Schools, 5; at Arni, Madanapalle, Tindivanam and Vellore, and the Theological Seminary at Palmaner. Total of students, 376.

The Arcot Mission College at Vellore had 1,004 students at the close of 1898. This number has since been greatly diminished on account of the panic about the plague.

At the hospital and dispensary at Ranipettai, 12,882 patients were treated and 781 surgical operations performed.

The year has been in some respects a trying one. Famine and famine prices for food produced great distress, which was relieved toward the end of the year by copious rains. Succeeding the famine came the cholera and afterward the plague. The entrance of the latter caused a degree of fright approaching panic, which interfered greatly with both educational and evangelistic work.

Notwithstanding these hindrances the Mission reports progress in almost every particular. The Rev. Henry Huizinga has been able to devote his entire time and strength to evangelistic work. A large amount of such work has also been done in the villages by the helpers, by the students in the boarding schools, by Christian Endeavor Societies and the Gospel Extension Societies of the native churches. Including the work carried on by Bible women and in the zenanas, the Gospel was preached or spoken 75,275 times in 26,476 places to 804,480 hearers, and 51,824 tracts, mostly hand bills were distributed.

The number of churches remains the same. Three new pastors have been ordained,

making 12 in all. The number of communicants is 2,304, a net gain of 96. But 223, or a little over 10% of the previous membership were received on confession during the year.

The contributions amounted to Rs. 4,169 $\frac{1}{2}$ an increase of Rs. 387, or about 10% over the previous year. This is the more remarkable because of the distress prevailing during most of the year.

The Convention of the Christian Endeavor Societies of South India was held at Vellore in August, 1898, in which 104 societies with 2,422 members were represented. A procession numbering about 600 marched through the city of Vellore with banners and music on the last day of the Convention. Most of the stations report valuable services rendered by the Christian Endeavor Societies.

THE NORTH JAPAN MISSION, 1859.

Missionaries.—Revs. James H. Ballagh, *Yokohama*; E. Rothesay Miller, *Morioka*; Eugene S. Booth, *Yokohama*; Howard Harris, *Ichinoseki*; Frank S. Scudder, *Nagano*; and Prof. Martin N. Wyckoff, Sc. D., *Tokyo*.

Assistant Missionaries.—Mrs. Miller, Mrs. Booth, Mrs. Wyckoff, Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Scudder, Mrs. Jennie D. Schenck, Miss M.

Leila Winn, *Aomori*; Miss Anna deF. Thompson, *Yokohama*; Miss Mary Deyo, *Ueda*; Miss Julia Moulton, *Yokohama*.

General Address.—Japan.

Stations occupied by missionaries, 7; out-stations and preaching places, 17.

Native pastors, 6; other native helpers, men, 16; women, 15. Total, 37.

The Church of Christ in Japan with which our Missions are connected numbers 70 churches, of which 23 are self-supporting. The total membership is reported to be 10,010, but the number is probably larger. The contributions of the Japanese Christians for the year 1898, were \$30,296.12 silver. All the churches formerly connected with our North Japan Mission belong to the Church of Christ, and during the last year only two with 516 communicants were connected with our own Mission. At present there are no organized churches under the Mission's care or receiving aid from it. Among those established, and until recently, either in whole or in part supported by our Mission, are some of the largest in the empire, but they can no longer be reported as belonging to us.

In the Meiji Gakuin, or Christian college, 74 students were reported as belonging to the Academical Department, or 16 more

than a year ago. Of the whole number, 21 were professing Christians, and 6 were baptized during the year. This department has now come into connection with the School system of the city of Tokyo, thus securing certain privileges for its students without any interference with or departure from the Christian conduct and character of the school. This arrangement has been made in the hope of securing a larger number of students, which hope seems to be already realized to some extent. The Theological department had 13 on its roll. Five were graduated, 2 from the regular and 3 from special courses.

The Ferris Seminary has not yet recovered from the losses sustained by reason of the changes made last year. It reports 42 scholars, of whom 15 are Christians and 7 were baptized during the year. Eight of the scholars were candidates for baptism. The renewal of the primary department, it is hoped, will enable the school to report larger numbers for the year to come.

A new station was opened in the summer of 1898, by Rev. H. Harris, at Ichi-no-seki, with favorable prospects, Mr. Harris being freed from his work in the Academical department of the Meiji Gakuin by the return of Dr. Wyckoff from this country.

The vacancies occasioned by the death of Dr. Verbeck and the return of Dr. Poppen to this country have not yet been filled.

The evangelistic work carried on by the ladies has also suffered from the loss of Miss Brokaw. On the other hand Miss Harriet J. Wyckoff has been added to their number.

THE SOUTH JAPAN MISSION, 1859.

Missionaries—Revs. Henry Stout, D.D., *Nagasaki*; Albert Oltmans, *Saga*; Albertus Pieters, *Nagasaki*;

Assistant Missionaries.—Mrs. Stout, Mrs. Oltman, Mrs. Pieters, Miss Sara M. Couch, Miss Harriet M. Lansing and Miss Anna K. Stryker.

General Address.—Japan.

In America.—Rev. and Mrs. H. V. S. Peeke.

Stations occupied by missionaries, 3; out-stations and preaching places, 15.

Native pastors, 3; other native helpers, men, 17; women, 2. Total, 22.

Four churches with 318 communicants.

With the return of Dr. Stout, his wife and daughter, the entire force was on the field at the close of the year. Since that, however, Mr. Peeke has been obliged to leave Japan and return to this country on account of his health.

While there has been no growth in the membership of the churches but rather a decline, yet the outlook seemed hopeful; self-support on the part of the churches had received a new impulse; an interesting work of Christ was going on at Oita, on the east coast, and generally, more Bible reading, more listening to good instruction, more prayer on the field than ever before seemed to have characterized the year. The new chapel at Nagasaki, was secured and opened after much effort and many disappointments.

The Theological department of Steele College remained suspended during the year. In the Academical department 70 students were reported. The sad conduct of some of the Christian students led to their expulsion and had an injurious effect upon the religious interests of the school. To aid students needing help to support themselves, an industrial department has been added to the school without expense to the Board. The Sturges Seminary reported 54 students, of whom 27 were boarders. Four of the boarders were received into the church during the year.

Rev. Charles M. Myers has been appointed to Steele College as a teacher of English.

THE ARABIAN MISSION, 1889.

(Adopted by the R. C. A., 1894.)

Missionaries—Revs. James Cantine, *Muscat*; Samuel M. Zwemer, F.R.G.S., *Bahrein*; Fred. J. Barny, *Busrah*; George E. Stone, *Muscat*.

Medical Missionaries—H. R. Lankford Worrall, M.D., *Busrah*; Sheldon J. Thoms, M.D., *Bahrein*.

Assistant Missionaries.—Mrs. Zwemer, Mrs. Barny and Mrs. Thoms, M.D.

General Address—Via Bombay. Open London Mail.

Under Appointment.—Rev. Harry J. Wiersum.

The Mission Occupies:—

1. *The Busrah Vilayet*: area, 50,000 square miles, or about the size of New York State; population, 700,000.

2. *Bahrein Islands and Adjacent Coast*: area, undefined; population, 300,000.

3. *Oman*: area, undefined; population, 500,000.

This year completes a decade in the history of this Mission. It has been sadly afflicted in the death of Rev. Peter J. Zwemer, who had returned on furlough and for the restoration of his health, which had become greatly impaired. He died in the

Presbyterian Hospital, New York City, on Oct. 18, 1898, to the great grief of the Board and those associated with him in the work of the Mission.

On the other hand, large additions were made to the force, the Rev. and Mrs. S. M. Zwemer being accompanied on their return to the field, by the Rev. George E. Stone and Miss Margaret Rice, who became Mrs. Fred J. Barney. In October the force was still further increased by the addition of Dr. Sharon J. Thoms and Mrs. Marion (Wells) Thoms, M. D.

For the first time the Mission is able "truthfully to say we have enough missionaries to occupy our three stations on the coast." The eyes and plans of the Mission will now be directed to the interior and the Church should prepare for the advance which is sure to be made as the way opens.

The return of Mrs. S. M. Zwemer has made possible the renewal of work among women, and the addition of Mrs. Barney and Mrs. Thoms will make this extension possible. So far as experience goes no hindrance has as yet been made to such work.

Mr. Harry J. Wiersum, a graduate of Hope College and Princeton Seminary, has been appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Rev. P. J. Zwemer.

The number of patients treated in the dispensaries at Bahrein and Busrah was 4,157.

The total number of missionaries under the care of the Board in all the Missions, including those now under appointment and intending to proceed to their respective fields this summer is as follows: Ordained missionaries 31, unordained 5 (of whom 3 are physicians); married women, 31; unmarried, 24; in all, 91.

The following table shows the condition of the Missions up to Dec. 31, 1898:

GENERAL SUMMARY, 1898-1899.

	CHINA	INDIA	NO. JAPAN	SO. JAPAN	ARABIA	TOTAL
Stations.....	4	7	7	3	3	24
Out-stations and Preaching Places.	41	150	17	15	2	225
Missionaries, <i>or- dained</i>	6	11	5	4	4	30
Missionaries, <i>unor- dained</i>		1	1		2	4
Assist. Missionaries <i>married</i>	5	12	6	4	3	30
Assist. Missionaries <i>unmarried</i>	7	4	7	4		22
Native ordained ministers.....	12	12	6	3		33
Other native Help- ers, <i>men</i>	30	208	16	17	11	282
Native Helpers, <i>women</i>	1	115	15	2		133
Churches.....	12	24	82	4		42
Communicants.....	1315	2304	516	318		4453
Received on Confes- sion, in 1898.....	128	223	28	20		399
Seminaries, <i>boys'</i> ..	2	4	1	1	1	9
Scholars.....	112	340	74	70	18	614
Seminaries, <i>girls'</i> ..	3	3	1	1		8
Scholars.....	114	193	42	54		403
Theological Schools	° 1	1	1	° 1		4
Students.....		36	13			49
Sunday Schools....		156	37	22		215
Scholars.....		4621	1650	274		6545
Day Schools.....	19	156	2			177
Scholars.....	303	5832	30			65
Hospitals and Dis- pensaries.....	+	3	1		2	6
Patients Treated...	13,847	12,882		4157	30,886	
Native Contribu- tions*.....	\$6,165	\$2,310	\$770	\$742		\$9,987

* All contributions in silver. ° Temporarily suspended. + One, at Sio-Khe, closed. § Aided during part of the year, but now separate from the Mission. The same is true of the other Churches formerly reported. But all are connected with the "Church of Christ in Japan," and many of them self-supporting.

COMPARATIVE SUMMARY, 1858-1899.

	1858.	1868.	1878.	1888.	1898.	1899.
Stations.....	6	10	11	11	22	24
Out-stations and Preaching Places.....	2	18	49	123	241	225
Missionaries, <i>men</i>	8	14	16	28	36	34
Missionaries, <i>mar'd women</i> .	6	12	14	21	31	30
Missionaries, <i>unmar'd wom- en</i>	1		7	9	20	22
Native Ordain- ed Ministers...		4	6	26	30	33
Other Native Helpers, <i>men</i> ..	22	76	86	173	211	282
Native Helpers <i>women</i>		2	10	47	41	133
Churches.....	7	13	31	47	47	*42
Communicants	297	816	1563	4559	5564	*4453
B'ding Schools, <i>boys'</i>		2	1	7	10	9
Scholars.....		55	40	308	517	614
B'ding Schools, <i>girls'</i>		1	3	5	10	8
Scholars		46	97	300	456	403
Theological Students.....		7	19	32	61	49
Day Schools...	6	17	44	106	201	177
Scholars.....	87	413	1341	2612	6059	6165
Hospitals and Dispensaries..		1	1		4	6
Pat'ntsTreated		15507	9673		18046	30886
Native Contri- butions.....					\$10 758	*\$9,987

* Loss apparent, not real; due to the separation of Churches no longer under the care of the North Japan Mission, to the "Church of Christ in Japan," with which they are enrolled with their communicants and contributions.

WHAT THE WORK COSTS.

The total receipts of the Board, exclusive of the Arabian Mission, were \$115,548.02. Of this amount \$3,204.45 were for special objects outside of the appropriations, leaving \$112,343.57 to apply on the appropriations. Deducting from this amount the interest received from the Security Fund \$2,065 and the amount of legacies, \$5,327.24, the sum of all gifts by collections and personal contributions was \$104,951.33. Of the receipts stated \$29,022.27 were received from the Woman's Board for regular work and \$1,153.40 for special objects, making a total from that source of \$30,175.67.

The receipts of the Arabian mission were for the regular work, \$8,606.27, and for special objects, chiefly the building fund, \$2,684.70, making a total of \$11,290 34. Of this sum, \$897.10 came through the Woman's Board. If this amount be added to the receipts of the Board of Foreign Missions, the total of receipts and contributions for foreign missions for the year will be found to be \$126,838.36, which is \$2,500 more than the total of the preceding year.

Expenditures. The expenditures have been as follows: For the Amoy Mission, \$21,832.65; for the Arcot Mission, \$43,133.59 for the North Japan Mission, \$25,675.81 and

for the South Japan Mission, \$20,143.84; a total for all the missions, except the Arabian of \$110,785.89. For interest on loans there were paid \$1,659.88, and for other home expenses \$8 676.10, making a total expense of \$121,208.87. The cost of administration was 7.23 per cent of the total amount expended.

For the Arabian Mission the expenditures were for salary, field work and traveling to and from the field, \$12,876.72, and for home expenses \$804.87, making a total of \$13,672.59. The appropriations for 1899 are \$9,811.50.

Added Debt. The receipts of the Board were not sufficient to meet the expenses for the year by \$9,000. It has been repeatedly stated that the very least sum for which the missions can be maintained is \$120,000. For 1899 they asked for \$124,241, exclusive of all home expenses. The amounts appropriated to them were \$92,376. It is manifest that such appropriations are utterly inadequate and that so long as they continue to be made, the missions will continue to suffer as they now do under the burden of hurtful and painful retrenchment. There is no reason either in the character and worth of the work, or in the ability of the church to maintain it, why this should be the case.

WHAT THE WORK WANTS.

Assuming that the Church clings, and will cling, to its reiterated determination not to suffer the Board to give up or seek to transfer to others any of its Missions, the situation seems to the Board to demand:

1. Adequate measures for the removal of the debt.
2. Such an increase in the regular contributions by the churches as shall bring the amount fully up to \$120,000 without reference to bequests or interest on invested funds. This is surely not too much to ask for the support of a work such as ours. It is evident that nothing less will suffice.
3. To meet present needs and prepare for coming demands there should be improved methods of securing these contributions. If it were possible to introduce some effective organization for Foreign Missions into every Church and Classis, similar to the Auxiliaries and Classical Unions of the Woman's Board, or the Societies and the Local Unions of Christian Endeavor, no doubt the cause would be far better served than it is or can be now.
4. In one particular line a great advance might easily be made with advantage to contributors and the work at large. The

whole number of missionaries who are supported, or have their support pledged, by societies and individuals is eighteen, including three in the Arabian Mission. There seems to be no reason why this number may not be largely increased, and thus vacancies filled and needed reinforcement furnished to the missions, in addition to the regular contributions of churches and individuals. Doubtless the donors would be greatly blessed in the doing, and a new inspiration given to the churches.

5. Since the Son Himself is not to have the heathen for His inheritance and the uttermost part of the earth for His possession without asking for it, and since He has put the petition for it, "Thy kingdom come," into the mouths of His disciples, nothing is more needed, and nothing can be more distinctly helpful in every way, than increased and constant prayer. The observance of a single Sabbath, the first in November, for several years past, for the presentation of facts and principles and for prayer respecting Foreign Missions, has undoubtedly been productive of good, and would be again. Even more to be desired is the universal revival of the regular monthly meeting of prayer for missions in both Church and Sunday-school. Nor will the

full measure of this power be exercised, nor its full benefits received, until every pulpit and every closet becomes a place of perpetual intercession, for the salvation of lost men and the coming of the Redeemer's kingdom.



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